UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/644,561	08/19/2003	Hsueh-Yuan Pao	IL-11028	6617

7590 01/16/2007 Deputy Laboratory Counsel For Intellectual Property Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory P.O. Box 808, L-703 Livermore, CA 94551	EXAMINER FILE, ERIN M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2611	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/16/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 10/06)

ρD

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/644,561	PAO ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Erin M. File	2611	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>20 October 2006</u>.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-12* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-12* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>06 June 2005</u> is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1.   The affadavit under 37 CFR 1.132 filed October 20, 2006 is insufficient to overcome the rejection of claims 1-12 based upon Zhang in view of McCullough under 35 U.S.C. 103 as set forth in the last Office action because: The affidavit relies on Hsueh-Yuan Pao to provide evidence that the McCullough reference cannot be combined with the Zhang reference.   Pao claims that because McCullough does not teach a modulator that can function in the QAM mode, therefore one skilled in the art would not incorporate the teachings of McCullough into Zhang. Because the gap the primary reference fails to teach does not include Quadrature Amplitude Modulation, it is not necessary for McCullough to teach Quadrature Amplitude Modulation to meet the obviousness requirement. This limitation of QAM is clearly met by the Zhang reference. The examiner relies on the McCullough reference to show a modulator which can function without the use of multipliers. Further, the McCullough reference does teach how this invention is an improvement upon conventional bi and multi-phase modulators, specifically including QAM (col. 1, line 24).

2.   In view of the foregoing, when all of the evidence is considered, the totality of the rebuttal evidence of nonobviousness fails to outweigh the evidence of obviousness.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4.   Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Zhang and in further view of McCullough.

Claim 1, 7, 12, Zhang discloses a serial-to-parallel data converter which converts a

string of serial data to a plurality of parallel data (fig. 1, 21), an in-phase/quadrature

mapper that receives parallel data and determines its I and Q locations (fig. 2, 47, col. 5,

lines 21-40), a plurality of look-up-tables (LUTs) operatively connected to receive and

store said I and Q locations, wherein the in-phase LUTs are configured I_1 to I_N, and

quadrature LUTs are configured Q_1 to Q_X (abstract, fig. 6B, col. 5, lines 21-40);   adders

are used to create data streams of each of I and Q locations stored within data buffers,

registers to collect and store IQ_1 to IQ_{IQN} (col. 5, lines 10-46); a digital to analog

converter operatively connected to convert said output data comprising IQ_1 to IQ_{IQN} to

analog data (fig. 2, 53). Zhang further teaches the data is configured A_1 to A_{AN}, for each

of I and Q added to produce IQ data (fig. 7, col. 6 line 62-col. 7 line 7). Zhang fails to

disclose a quadrature amplitude modulator which does not include a multiplier,

McCullough discloses an architecture for a universal modulator which can function in a

variety of modes without the use of multipliers (fig. 1, col. 1, lines 21-30, 64-66). Zhang

teaches a quadrature amplitude modulator which meets all of the limitations of the

disclosed invention, and further teaches his invention significantly reduces the number of multipliers (abstract). McCullough teaches a modulator which can function in a variety of modes and does not disclose the use of any modulators. The use of multipliers is computationally intensive. Zhang's disclosure teaches away from the use of multipliers in his modulation technique, claiming an increase in the efficiency of the modulation. For these reasons it would be obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to incorporate McCullough's modulation technique into Zhang's invention.

Claims 2, 8, 10, Zhang discloses a serial-to-parallel data converter which converts a string of serial data to a plurality of parallel data (fig. 1, 21); in-phase/quadrature mapper that receives parallel data and determines its I and Q locations (fig. 2, 47, col. 5, lines 21-40); a plurality of look-up-tables (LUTs) operatively connected to receive and store said I and Q locations, wherein the in-phase LUTs are configured I_1 to I_N, and quadrature LUTs are configured Q_1 to Q_X (abstract, fig. 6B, col. 5, lines 21-40); a adders to receive and add I and Q locations stored within LUTs, wherein adders are configured A_1 to A_{AN}, wherein each I and Q having a particular subscript are added in the adder having the same subscript to produce output data comprising IQ_1 to IQ_{IQN} (fig. 6B); registers to collect and store IQ_1 to IQ_{IQN} (col. 5, lines 10-46); at least one multiplexer to collect from registers the subscript output data comprising only odd subscript output data from said output data comprising IQ_1 to IQ_{IQN} (fig. 3B); at least one multiplexer to collect from said plurality of registers the subscript output data comprising only even subscript output data from said output data comprising IQ_1 to IQ_{IQN} (fig. 3A); and a digital to analog converter operatively connected to convert said odd subscript

data and said even subscript data to analog data (fig. 2, 53). Zhang fails to disclose a

quadrature amplitude modulator which does not include a multiplier, McCullough

discloses an architecture for a universal modulator which can function in a variety of

modes including QAM without the use of multipliers (abstract). Zhang teaches a

quadrature amplitude modulator which meets all of the limitations of the disclosed

invention, and further teaches his invention significantly reduces the number of

multipliers (abstract). McCullough teaches a modulator which can function in a variety of

modes including quadrature amplitude modulation and does not disclose the use of any

modulators. Because of Zhang's disclosure teaches away from the use of multipliers in

his modulation technique, claiming an increase in the efficiency of the modulation, it

would be obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to incorporate

McCullough's modulation technique into Zhang's invention.

Claims 3, 5, 9, 11, Zhang meets all the limitations of claims 3, 5, 9, and 11, (see above

paragraphs) except disclosing the exact multiplexer configuration wherein nx2

multiplexers are used. At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious

to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use various permutations of multiplexers since it

is well-known in the art that there are multiple ways to translate multiple signals into one

output. For instance, Zhang could use two 4x2 and two 2x1 multiplexers to substitute for

one 8x1 multiplexer. In addition, applicant has not disclosed that nx2 multiplexers

provides an advantage, is used for a particular purpose, or solves a stated problem.

One of ordinary skill in the art, furthermore, would have expected Applicant's invention

to perform equally well with one 8x1 multiplexer because it would reduce FPGA

programming complexity. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill

in this art to modify Zhang to obtain the invention as specified in claims 3, 5, 9, and 11.

Claim 4, Zhang discloses a plurality of look-up-tables (LUTs) operatively connected to

receive and store said I and Q locations, wherein the in-phase LUTs are configured I_1 to

I_N, and quadrature LUTs are configured Q_1 to Q_X (abstract, fig. 6B, col. 5, lines 21-40);

a adders to receive and add I and Q locations stored within LUTs, wherein adders are

configured A_1 to A_{AN}, wherein each I and Q having a particular subscript are added in

the adder having the same subscript to produce output data comprising IQ_1 to IQ_{IQN} (fig.

6B); registers to collect and store IQ_1 to IQ_{IQN} (col. 5, lines 10-46); at least one

multiplexer to collect from registers the subscript output data comprising only odd

subscript output data from said output data comprising IQ_1 to IQ_{IQN} (fig. 3B); at least one

multiplexer to collect from said plurality of registers the subscript output data comprising

only even subscript output data from said output data comprising IQ_1 to IQ_{IQN} (fig. 3A);

and a digital to analog converter operatively connected to convert said odd subscript

data and said even subscript data to analog data (fig. 2, 53). Zhang fails to disclose a

quadrature amplitude modulator which does not include a multiplier, McCullough

discloses an architecture for a universal modulator which can function in a variety of

modes including QAM without the use of multipliers (abstract). Zhang teaches a

quadrature amplitude modulator which meets all of the limitations of the disclosed

invention, and further teaches his invention significantly reduces the number of

multipliers (abstract). McCullough teaches a modulator which can function in a variety of

modes including quadrature amplitude modulation and does not disclose the use of any

modulators. Because of Zhang's disclosure teaches away from the use of multipliers in his modulation technique, claiming an increase in the efficiency of the modulation, it would be obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to incorporate McCullough's modulation technique into Zhang's invention.

Claim 6, Zhang discloses a plurality of look-up-tables (LUTs) operatively connected to receive and store said I and Q locations, wherein the in-phase LUTs are configured I_1 to I_N, and quadrature LUTs are configured Q_1 to Q_X (abstract, fig. 6B, col. 5, lines 21-40); a adders to receive and add I and Q locations stored within LUTs, wherein adders are configured A_1 to A_{AN}, wherein each I and Q having a particular subscript are added in the adder having the same subscript to produce output data comprising IQ_1 to IQ_{IQN} (fig. 7, col. 6 line 62-col. 7 line 7); registers to collect and store IQ_1 to IQ_{IQN} (col. 5, lines 10-46); a digital to analog converter operatively connected to convert said odd subscript data and said even subscript data to analog data (fig. 2, 53). Zhang fails to disclose a quadrature amplitude modulator which does not include a multiplier, McCullough discloses an architecture for a universal modulator which can function in a variety of modes including QAM without the use of multipliers (abstract). Zhang teaches a quadrature amplitude modulator which meets all of the limitations of the disclosed invention, and further teaches his invention significantly reduces the number of multipliers (abstract). McCullough teaches a modulator which can function in a variety of modes including quadrature amplitude modulation and does not disclose the use of any modulators. Because of Zhang's disclosure teaches away from the use of multipliers in his modulation technique, claiming an increase in the efficiency of the modulation, it

would be obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to incorporate

McCullough's modulation technique into Zhang's invention.

Conclusion

5.   **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time

policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

6.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Erin M. File whose telephone number is (571)272-6040.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 1:00PM-9:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Mohammad Ghayour can be reached on (571) 272-3021. The fax phone

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-

273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Erin M. File

EMF

1/4/2006

MOHAMMED GHAYOUR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER